

REMARKS

The Examiner's allowance of claims 5-44 and 54-78 and allowability of claim 4, if rewritten in independent form, are acknowledged and appreciated. Claim 79 previously presented in the Amendment filed on March 29, 2005 incorporates features of claims 1 and 4, and therefore, is believed to be allowable. Claims 80 and 81 depend from claim 79, and accordingly, are also believed to be allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly describe the invention, and changes to claims 2 and 3 are made to correct informalities. It is believed that no new issue has been raised that would require the Examiner to conduct further search. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Yang et al. in view of Clerc et al. and Anderson et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because even with the addition of Anderson et al., the references, alone or in combination, still would not disclose or suggest the claimed lamination layer groups that have negative birefringence layers. The lamination layer groups are laminated together in a face-to-face relationship.

As explained in Amendment D filed on March 29, 2005, Yang et al. and Clerc et al., alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the features of the lamination layer groups of the claimed viewing angle compensation film. The Anderson et al. reference relates to a broadband cholesteric polarizer including a multi-layer structure of compensating layers 30 alternating with cholesteric polarizing layers 31. The reference teaches that each

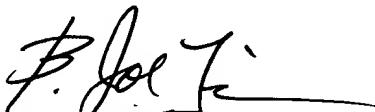
polarizing layer 31 is provided with a corresponding compensating layer 30 as described with reference to Figs. 15 and 17 (see col. 9, lines 9-14).

In the present invention, the lamination layer groups each includes negative birefringence layers. In contrast, the Anderson et al. reference teaches a polarizer, or a layer group, made up of a polarizing layer and a corresponding compensating layer, and not negative birefringence layers. Therefore, even if the polarizers, or the layer groups, of Anderson et al. were laminated together, the resulting device still would not include the lamination layer groups that have negative birefringence layers, and are laminated together in a face to face relationship. Accordingly, since none of the cited references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest this feature of the invention, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-4 are believed to be allowable over the cited references.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner should contact Applicants' undersigned attorney if a telephone conference would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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